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IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hengelmolen *et al.*

Application No: 10/055,611

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Attorney Docket No: 17648 A

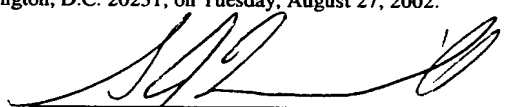
Title: Ferrule

Art Group: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Stephen J. Driscoll

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the application as follows:

Delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3, with the term "[Claims]".

Delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4, with the term "[Claim 1]".

Delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 10, with the term "each".

Delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 16, with the term "and".

Delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 18, with the term "[Claim 2]".

Delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 23, with the term "[Claim 3]".